

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 04445 082308Z

ACTION IO-14

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NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-12

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INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG, UNGA, ID

SUBJECT: 32ND UNGA: QUESTION OF EAST TIMOR IN FOURTH

COMMITTEE - MORNING SESSION NOVEMBER 8

REF: USUN 4432 AND PREVIOUS

1. SUMMARY: SOME DOZEN SPEAKERS ADDRESSED FOURTH COMMITTEE MORNING NOVEMBER 8. SIX OF THEM REFERRED TO EAST TIMOR ISSUE. FOREIGN MINISTER ROMULO OF PHILIPPINES DELIVERED SPEECH ON EAST TIMOR REAFFIRMING HIS GOVERNMENT'S CONSISTENT SUPPORT FOR INDONESIAN POSITION. EAST TIMOR NO LONGER DECOLONIZATION PROBLEM, AND CONTINUATION OF UN DEBATE IN THAT VEIN INTER-FERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF INDONESIA. IN RAMBLING STATEMENT ON DECOLONIZATION ISSUES, SAUDI ARABIAN AMB BAROODY ALSO SUPPORTED INDONESIAN POSITION THAT EAST TIMOR PART OF INDONESIA. HE WARNED DARKLY THAT SUPERPOWERS AND THEIR CLIENT LESSER POWERS WANT INDEPENDENCE FOR EAST TIMOR ONLY SO THEY CAN PLAY POWER POLITICS IN VACUUM THAT WOULD BE CREATED BY SUCH INDEPENDENCE. REPRESENTATIVES OF SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE, MOZAMBIQUE, ETHIOPIA AND ZAMBIA CALLED FOR RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION FOR EAST TIMOR. MOZAMBIQUE
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PAGE 02 USUN N 04445 082308Z

DELIVERED STRONGEST ATTACK ON INDONESIA, WHICH HE ACCUSED OF COMMITTING GENOCIDE IN EAST TIMOR. HE CALLED FOR DIPLOMATIC, POLITICAL AND MILITARY SUPPORT FOR FRETELIN. GENERAL DEBATE IN FOURTH COMMITTEE WILL CONTINUE AFTERNOON NOVEMBER 8. VOTE ON DRAFT RESES BEFORE COMMITTEE (INCLUDING RES ON TIMOR) EXPECTED TO COME NOVEMBER 9. END SUMMARY.

2. EAST TIMOR WAS SOLE SUBJECT OF PHILIPPINE FOREIGN MINISTER ROMULO'S STATEMENT WHICH OPENED GENERAL DEBATE IN NOVEMBER 8 SESSION OF FOURTH COMMITTEE. ROMULO REAFFIRMED PHILIPPINE POSITION THAT PEOPLE OF EAST TIMOR HAVE FULLY EXERCISED RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION. HE RECALLED THAT BECAUSE OF LEGACY OF COLONIAL DOMINATION AND CIVIL WAR IN EAST TIMOR, TRANSITION OF POWER COULD NOT BE SMOOTH. INDONESIA HAD, HOWEVER, ACTED THROUGHOUT IN ACCORDANCE WITH WISHES OF PEOPLE OF EAST TIMOR AND IN INTERESTS OF REGIONAL STABILITY. ROMULO WELCOMED EFFORTS OF INDONESIAN GOVERNMENT AND EAST TIMORESE PEOPLE TO RECONSTRUCT EAST TIMOR. INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY SHOULD NOW FOCUS ON ASSISTANCE TO RECONSTRUCTION OF EAST TIMOR. TO CONTINUE UN DEBATE ON DECOLONIZATION OF EAST TIMOR WOULD RIGHTLY BE REGARDED BY INDONESIANS AND EAST TIMORESE AS INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF SOVEREIGN STATE.

3. REPRESENTATIVE OF SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE CALLED INDONESIA'S INVASION OF EAST TIMOR FLAGRANT VIOLATION OF RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION. HE BLAMED INDONESIA FOR BLOODSHED IN EAST TIMOR. SITUATION THERE REQUIRES URGENT ACTION. SOLUTION MUST INCLUDE INDONESIAN WITHDRAWAL FROM TERRITORY.

4. REPRESENTATIVE OF MOZAMBIQUE HELD INDONESIA HAD ILLEGALLY OCCUPIED EAST TIMOR IN 1975 BUT THAT, AFTER TWO YEARS OF WAR, VICTORY STILL NOT IN SIGHT FOR OCCUPYING FORCE. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 USUN N 04445 082308Z

HE ACCUSED INDONESIA OF GENOCIDE IN EAST TIMOR. MOZAMBIQUE CALLED ON ALL STATES TO GIVE FRETILIN DIPLOMATIC, POLITICAL AND MILITARY SUPPORT TO LIBERATE PEOPLE OF EAST TIMOR.

5. ETHIOPIAN REPRESENTATIVE ASKED THAT PRINCIPLE OF SELF-DETERMINATION BE APPLIED IN EAST TIMOR, AS ELSEWHERE. HE HOPED FOR SOLUTION TO EAST TIMOR PROBLEM WHICH WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO ENTIRE MEMBERSHIP OF UN.

6. REPRESENTATIVE OF ZAMBIA REQUESTED OBJECTIVITY IN VIEWING PROBLEMS OF EAST TIMOR AND WESTERN SAHARA. STATES SHOULD NOT ALLOW BILATERAL RELATIONS, ECONOMIC CONSIDERATION, OR ETHNIC, REGIONAL OR OTHER TIES TO INFLUENCE THEIR ATTITUDES TOWARD THESE ISSUES. PEOPLE OF EAST TIMOR MUST HAVE GENUINE OPPORTUNITY TO DECIDE WHETHER THEY WANT INDEPENDENCE OR INTEGRATION WITH INDONESIA. ZAMBIAN REPRESENTATIVE CALLED FOR IMMEDIATE REFERENDUM THERE UNDER UN SUPERVISION.

7. IN RAMBLING STATEMENT SAUDI ARABIAN AMB BAROODY COVERED GUAM, EAST TIMOR AND WESTERN SAHARA AND WARNED DARKLY OF PLOTS BY SUPERPOWERS AND THEIR CLIENT STATES. ON EAST TIMOR, BAROODY NOTED TERRITORY HAD NOT BEEN INCLUDED IN INDONESIA

FROM THE BEGINNING ONLY BECAUSE IT WAS A COLONY OF
PORTUGAL. HE CLAIMED THOSE WHO DEMAND INDEPENDENCE FOR
EAST TIMOR ARE "MORE ROYALIST THAN THE KING." HE IMPLIED
HE HAD INFORMATION THAT SOME POWERS WANTED INDEPENDENCE
FOR EAST TIMOR SO THAT THEY CAN PLAY POWER POLITICS IN
VACUUM WHICH WOULD BE CREATED. HE WARNED BIG POWERS, AND
LESSER POWERS WHICH ARE CLIENTS OF SUPERPOWERS, NOT TO PLAY
WITH FIRE. POOR PEOPLE OF EAST TIMOR SHOULD NOT HAVE TO SUFFER
FROM MACHINATIONS OF "ACTIVISTS WHO MAY SURREPTIOUSLY BE
AGENTS OF GREATER OR LESSER POWERS." ALTHOUGH BAROODY HAD
MENTIONED NO NAMES IN HIS STATMENT, REPRESENTATIVE OF USSR
THEN EXERCISED HIS RIGHT OF REPLY TO DENY SOVIET UNION
HAD RIVALRY WITH ANY SUPERPOWER IN THAT AREA.

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PAGE 04 USUN N 04445 082308Z

8. GENERAL DEBATE WILL CONTINUE IN FOURTH COMMITTEE AFTERNOON
NOVEMBER 8. VOTES ON DRAFT RESOLUTIONS BEFORE COMMITTEE,
INCLUDING RES ON EAST TIMOR, NOW EXPECTED TO OCCUR NOVEMBER 9.

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